MINUTES

OF THE

Evangelical Lutheran Synod

AND

MINISTERIUM

OF

NORTH CAROLINA,

Convened at Frederick Town, Davidson County, North Carolina, Friday May 4, 1855.

MILLER & JAMES, PRINTERS.

SALISBURY.

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MINUTES.

The Ministers and Lay Delegates, composing the Fifty-first Annual meeting of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of North Carolina, met at Fredericktown Church, on Friday the 4th of May, 1855. The President preached the Synodical Sermon from Exodus xxxiii, 14. After a short recess, Synod was organized in the usual manner. The following are the members of Synod:

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

Rev. JOHN D. SCHECK,	*Mount Pleasant, Cabarrus Co.,*	*N. C.*
" WILLIAM ARTZ,	*Holt's Store, Alamance,*	" "
" SAMUEL ROTHROCK,	*Rockville, Rowan*	" "
" WILLIAM G. HARTER,	*Concord, Cabarrus,*	" "
" BENJAMIN AREY,	*Statesville, Iredell,*	" "
" JACOB CRIM,	*Jerusalem, Davie,*	" "
" JOSEPH A. LINN,	*Gold Hill, Rowan,*	" "
" WILLIAM GERHARDT,	*Mount Pleasant, Cabarrus,*	" "
" LEVI C. GROSECLOSE,	*Lexington, Davidson,*	" "
" SIMEON SCHERER,	*Holt's Store, Alamance,*	" "
" JOHN SWICEGOOD,	*Statesville, Iredell,*	" "
" JOHN S. HEILIG,	*Concord, Cabarrus,*	" "

LICENTIATES.

Rev. J. GREISON, dec'd,	*Brick Church, Guilford County,*	*N. C.*
" A. GRIMES,	*Hay's Meadow, Wilkes*	" "
" D. J. DREHER,	*Concord, Cabarrus*	" "

LAY DELEGATES.

Mr. N. LEFLER,	*Rev. J. D. Scheck's*	*Delegate,*
" J. J. MILLER,	" *S. Rothrock's*	"
" D. D. LENTZ,	" *W. G. Harter's*	"
" J. THOMAS,	" *B. Arey's*	"
" DANIEL HOFFMAN,	" *J. Crim's*	"
" M. BARRIER,	" *J. A. Linn's*	"
" J. D. BODENHAMER,	" *L. C. Groseclose's*	"
" D. HAGEE,	" *S. Scherer's*	"
" J. A. HEATHCOCK,	" *J. Swicegood's*	"
" M. BARGER,	" *J. S. Heilig's*	"
" D. M. WAGNER,	" *D. J. Dreher's*	"

Mr. Henry Barringer presented a certificate as Commissioner from Union and St. Paul Pastorate, and was invited to a seat as an advisory member of Synod.

The President read his Report, which was laid on the table for future disposal.

An election for officers of Synod resulted as follows:

Rev. S. ROTHROCK, *President,*
" L. C. GROSECLOSE, *Recording Secretary,*
" J. A. LINN, *Corresponding* "
Mr. M. BARRIER, *Treasurer.*

The President inquired whether there was any minister present from other Lutheran Synods, who wished to unite with this. In response to which, Rev. WILLIAM GERHARDT, Professor of Western Carolina Male Academy, presented a certificate of honorable dismission from the German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Pennsylvania, and Rev. D. J. DREHER, one from the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of South Carolina, both of whom were unanimously received as members of this Synod.

The minutes of our last Synod were, on motion, referred to the Committee on unfinished business.

The letters, papers, and other documents, intended for Synod being called for, were presented, then read, numbered and disposed of as follows:

Letter, No. 1, is from Dr. L. EICHELBERGER, the delegate from the Synod of South Carolina, informing this Synod of the reasons why he cannot attend this meeting. In reference to it the following resolution was adopted:

1. *Resolved*, That we have heard with pleasure the letter of Dr. EICHELBERGER, who was appointed Corresponding Delegate to this Synod, and express our regret that special circumstances have prevented his attendance.—It would have afforded us much pleasure to have seen brother EICHELBERGER in our midst.

Letter, No. 2, was referred for future consideration.

Letter, No. 3, was referred to the Education and Missionary Society. Letter, No. 4, is an application from Bethel Church, Rowan County, to be received into connection with this Synod. The request of the petitioners was granted.

On motion, the "Kirchen Bote" was laid on the table for the use of the members of Synod.

On motion, the German Catechism forwarded to us by the Synod of Pennsylvania, was referred to the following Committee for examination, &c.

Committee—Rev'ds Samuel Rothrock and W. Gerhardt.

On motion, a number of minutes from sister Synods were laid on the table for the use of the members of this Synod.

On motion, the License, Sermons and Journal of Rev. D. J. DREHER, were referred to the Ministerium.

The President's Report was referred to the Committee on President's Report.

Reports being called for, were handed in.

PAROCHIAL REPORTS.

MINISTERS.	Congregations,	Baptisms. Adults,	Baptisms. Infants,	Communicants,	Confirmations,	Restorations,	Dismissions	Admissions,	Expulsions,	Burials,	Death of Members,	Education and Miss. Societies,	Sunday Schools,	Teachers,	Scholars,	Bible Classes,	Prayer Meetings,	Contributions. Local,	Contributions. Benevolent,
Rev. JOHN D. SCHECK,...	2	29	00	550	50	00	3	2	00	24	18	2	2	00	00	00	2	$550	$225
" WILLIAM ARTZ,* ...		00	00	000	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	000	000
" S. ROTHROCK,.....	1	28	00	505	53	00	00	00	00	22	10	1	00	00	00	1	00	127	67 25
" BENJ. AREY,*.....		00	00	000	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	000	000
" WM. G. HARTER,....		4	25	3	226	6	00	00	2	00	6	2	00	1	9	68	00	1	000
" JACOB CRIM, ...		3	6	00	115	6	00	00	9	00	2	00	00	00	00	00	00	000	000
" JOS. A. LINN, ...		2	22	2	230	3	1	4	2	2	29	9	00	00	00	00	1	314	15 00
" L. C. GROSELLOSE,..		4	14	16	230	26	00	1	00	8	5	2	00	1	00	00	2	295	27 50
" S. SCHERER, ...		5	17	12	334	50	00	00	00	00	00	2	00	00	00	00	00	65	22 00
" W. GERHARDT,*....			00	00	000	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	000	00 00
" J. S. HEILIG,.....		2	22	3	222	5	00	2	8	00	00	00	1	5	50	00	00	80	6 50
" A. GRIMES,*.....			00	00	000	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	000	000
" D. J. DREHER,.....		1	8	2	200	13	00	00	00	00	4	00	00	1	6	45	00	000	000
" SWICEGOOD, ...		2	5	1	85	00	00	2	00		4	00	00	2	00	00	00	000	000

*No reports.

The Report of the Treasurer of Synod was read and referred to the Committee of Finance. Also, the Report of the Treasurer of Seminary Fund.

On motion, Synod adjourned to meet to-morrow eight o'clock, A. M,

Closed with prayer and benediction.

SECOND SESSION.

Saturday 8 *o'clock, A. M.*

Synod met, and after spending half an hour in singing and prayer, proceeded to business.

The following Committees were appointed by the President, viz:

1. *Committee on President's Report*—Prof. W. Gerhardt, Rev. J. S. Heilig, and Mr. M. Barrier.

2. *Committee on Petitions and Vacancies*—Rev. Benjamin Arey, and Messrs. J. Thomas and D. D. Lentz.

3. *Committee on Finance*—Rev. William G. Harter, and Messrs. J. J. Miller and M. Barger.

4. *Committee on the State of Religion*—Rev'ds John D. Scheck and J. Swicegood, and Mr. J. D. Bodenhamer.

5. *Committee on Unfinished Business*—Rev'ds Joseph A. Linn, Wm. Artz and Mr. D. Hoffman.

A Committee was also appointed to receive contributions and report the amount to Synod.

The following report was made by the Committee on the German Ctaechism, viz:

The Committee to whom was referred Luther's Smaller Catechism, published by Rev. Mann, in the German language, present the following: That they gave said Catechism a cursory examination, and are pleased to say, that it appears to be systematically arranged, and contains copious questions and answers adapted to the capacities of youth. Your Committee regret that they cannot offer any thing of a recommendatory nature in relation to this Catechism, as the German Language is so rapidly declining within our bounds, and very few, if any, of the youth are taught to read said language.

Respectfully submitted,
SAMUEL ROTHROCK,
WM. GERHARDT.

Adopted.

The Report of the Convention appointed to district the Synod into Pastorates, was taken up, discussed and adopt-

ed by a majority of 17 ayes to 3 nays. The following is the districting part of the Report:

1. Organ and Luther's Chapel. 2. St. John's and Bethel. 3. Concord and Mount Carmel. 4. St. Stephen's, Luther's and St. Matthew's. 5. Union and St. Paul's. 6. St. Enoch's and Salem. 7. St. Michael's, St. Paul's in Iredell, and Newton. 8. Salisbury, Bethel in Rowan, Jerusalem, and St. Matthew's in Davie County,

Charge in Davidson and the Churches in Guilford, Alamance and Randolph, as they were.*

Adopted. Respectfully submitted.

The hour for preaching having arrived, the business of Synod was suspended till after divine service.

Rev. D. J. Dreher preached a sermon from Eph. v. 16; after which Synod resumed its regular business.

The Corresponding Secretary having through mistake in papers, left his report at home, was, on motion, excused with the understanding that he forward the same to the Recording Secretary at an early day.

REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

Your Corresponding Secretary would beg the indulgence of Synod to report the following:

1. *From the Minutes of the South Carolina Synod.*—This Synod held its last annual meeting in Mount Pilgrim Church, Coweta County, Georgia. Convened 10th November, 1854. Ordained ministers 30; licentiates 15. Officers, J. B. Anthony, Recording Secretary; S. Corley, Treasurer; Congregations 52; Members, white and colored, 4798; Sunday Schools 36: Scholars 1263; Benevolent Societies 28. Relative to our Institution at Lexington, President's report says: "Dr. Eichelberger has fully met the high expectations of the Church. He presides over the Institution to the entire satisfaction of all."

Resolved, 1. "That the Directors" of said Institution "be and are hereby instructed to take the necessary steps to effect the removal, to such place in South Carolina, as may promise a more eligible location.

2. "That the Directors be also instructed to obtain from the Legislature of that State such amendments in the Charter as to constitute it a regular College, with the power of conferring degrees.

*The Secretary has had to give the above districts from memory, because the report of the Convention is not to be found in the manuscript of Synod.

3. "That the Institution, with its new Charter, shall be called—College of South Carolina." On Temperance;

"*Resolved*, 1. When the immorality of any business is placed beyond the possibility of doubt, it is the duty of all Christians to frown upon every attempt to license such traffic or crime.

"2. That legal enactments should never conflict with moral law; and that the entire traffic in intoxicating drinks, except for medicinal and mechanical purposes, should be stayed, *at once* and *forever*, by the *strong arm of the law*."

Manuscript of Rev. P. A. Strobel. Committee, J. Bachman, L. Eichelberger, A. J. Karn, report: "They have carefully examined the Manuscript, and cheerfully express their gratification at the judicious selection of the materials from various sources, difficult of attainment, by which a valuable historical sketch has been given of the cruel persecutions, the christian firmness, and devoted piety of the ancient Saltzburgers. In recommending the work to the patronage of the christian public, and especially the members of our own communion, they feel assured that the reader will be amply rewarded in the high and elevated standard of christianity which this volume holds out for their imitation."

This Synod manifests a commendable zeal in Church extension,—reports favorably on *state of religion*,—a number of revivals during the last year,—manifests also a growing liberality in the various benevolent enterprises.—Holds its next annual meeting in Bethlehem Church, Newberry District, S. C., commencing on Thursday before the 2nd Sabbath in November, 1855, 11 o'clock, A. M.

2. *Minutes of Synod of Western Virginia.*—This Synod convened the 28th September, 1854, at Zion's Church, Floyd County, Va. Ministers ordained 8; Licentiates 2. Officers, E. Hawkins, President; J. A. Brown, Secretary; S. Rhuely, Treasurer; Congregations 29; Communicants 1,893; Prayer-meetings 19; Sunday Schools 21.

Roanoke College.—I here insert several items to excite us to *emulation*, as well as for our instruction. Its most excellent Principal, Rev. D. F. Bittle, D. D., has already secured by subscription about $8,000. The services of Rev. J. J. Greever, as collecting Agent, were about to be procured. Synod *resolves* to endeavor to raise within its bounds the sum of $20,000 towards an endowment fund. [I recently noticed in the Observer of our Church, that the ladies of Virginia have taken a very active and praise-worthy part towards raising funds to procure a Library and Philosophical Apparatus.] Forty-five students in attendance last session, about 20 of whom are studying with a *view* to the Ministry.

Female Education.—By resolution, a committee was appointed, consisting of Revs. Messrs. Bittle, Brown, and L. D. Hancock, Esq., "to adopt a plan, inspect localities, and, if deemed expedient, make proposals to different

places for the establishment of such Institution; and as soon as practicable commence taking subscriptions for the erection of suitable buildings."

To convene again on Friday preceding the 4th Sunday in September, 1855, at Kimberling, Wythe County, Va.

This sister Synod is obviously zealously engaged in the *Master's* work, making it the duty of each Minister to preach on the subject of *Temperance* to each of his Congregations within the year, to use all laudable endeavors to encourage pious and worthy sons of the Church to devote themselves to the Gospel Ministry—*worthy of our imitation.*

3. *Minutes of the Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium of Pennsylvania.*—Convened 11th June, 1854, in Reading, Pa. Officers, Rev. J. C. Baker, President; A. T. Geissenhainer, Secretary; C. W. Shaeffer, Treasurer; Ministers 95; Congregations 231; contributions for Missions $1,627. It sustains the Rev. Mr. Heyer in India; has a number of Home Missions with some in Texas; has raised in its bounds $15,000 to endow a German Professorship at Gettysburg.

4. *Minutes of the Alleghany Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Pennsylvania*—Convened at Altoona, Blair County, Pa., October 12th, 1854. Officers, Rev. A. Babb, President; W. Kopp, Secretary. P. Sham, Treasurer; Ministers 31; Congregations 88; Communicants 6,899; Sabbath Schools 70; Scholars 2,977; local objects $22,638; general benevolence $24,964 59. "There are but few now, but in a short time there will not be a single charge within the bounds of the Alleghany Synod without a neat and comfortable parsonage."—*Pres. Report.*

5. *Minutes of Joint Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Ohio, &c.*—Convened in Evangelical Lutheran Zion's Church, in Thompson Township, Seneca County, June 9th, 1854. Officers, Rev. J. J. Beilharz, President; H. Borchers, Secretary: Prof. W. F. Lehman, Treasurer. Forty-seven Ministers and 8 Lay Delegates were in attendance. Can say but little for it, presenting no Parochial Report, &c., &c., &c.

6. *Minutes of Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Indiana.*—Held in Newtown Church, Boone County, Indiana, October 6th, 1854. Officers, Bro. Morkert, President; E. S. Henkel, Secretary; J. Good, Treasurer; Ministers 9. No Parochial Report. Synod apparently in its incipiency.

7. *Minutes of Evangelical Lutheran Tennessee Synod.*—Held in St. Peter's Church, Lexington District, S. C., November 4—9th, 1854. Officers, Rev. A. J. Brown, President; J. R. Peterson, Secretary; J. W. Wagner, Treasurer; Pastors 24; Deacons 7; Congregations 73; Communicants 5,048. All the above mentioned Minutes received.

Leaving each to make his own reflections from the data furnished, we will add only that we have officially corresponded with several of our brethren of sister Synods, with a view of supplying some of our destitute Churches, but have, as yet, accomplished nothing effectually.

Respectfully submitted,

S. SCHERER, *Cor. Sec'y.*

The Delegate to Synod of South-Western Virginia, reported as follows, viz:

Your Delegate to the Synod of South-Western Virginia would report that up to a period of within two weeks of the time of the meeting of that Synod, he had it in contemplation to meet with them, but owing to sickness in his family, and the death of his father and father-in-law, he was not able to attend the said meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. LINN.

The Delegate to the Synod of South Carolina stated that personal and family afflictions, and the distance to the place of the meeting of Synod, prevented his attendance; but that he addressed a friendly letter to said Synod, assuring them of our continued fraternal feelings of regard towards them.

On motion, both the Delegates were excused for the reasons assigned.

The Committee appointed last Synod to revise and amend the Constitution of Synod reported; pending the adoption of the Report by items, the yeas and nays were called for and taken on section 10 "chapter 3." Bro. Arey requesting his name to appear in the negative on the printed Minutes.

A motion for an adjournment till 8 o'clock, A. M., Monday, prevailed.

Closed with prayer by the President.

At candle-light Rev. B. Arey preached from Isaiah lii. 13—15.

SABBATH EXERCISES.

A Prayer-meeting was held in the Church at 9 o'clock. At 10, Rev. Prof. Gerhardt preached at the stand a lucid and impressive sermon from 2 Cor. viii. 9, after which the

Lord's Supper was administered to a large number of communicants of different denominations. After an intermission of one hour, the congregation re-assembled and was addressed by Rev. W. G. Harter on the subject of Education and Domestic Missions, from 2 Cor. x. 4. It is believed that these services were blessed to the good of all who heard faithfully. At candle-light Rev. D. J. Dreher preached from Gal. vi. 14. Christians seemed to enjoy the exercises of the day and evening in anticipation of an eternal Sabbath on high, where "there is fulness of joy."

THIRD SESSION.

Monday, 8 o'clock, A. M.

Synod again met and spent half an hour in singing and prayer. The adoption by items of the amendments to the Constitution was resumed. The final adoption of the amended Constitution was deferred for the present.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

The Committee on Unfinished Business would present the following as their Report:

1. They would inquire whether the duties imposed upon your Secretary as specified in the 11th and 43rd resolutions of the printed Minutes of last year, have been attended to or not.

2. They would further call the attention of Synod to the 35th resolution of said Minutes, and inquire whether the object therein contemplated has been attained, and whether the Committee created by said resolution are able to report to this Synod, or not.

Your Committee are not apprised of any other unfinished business than the above.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. LINN,
W. ARTZ,
D. HOFFMAN.

After its reception, it was taken up by items. In relation to item

1. The former Secretary stated that he had in part complied with the requisition of the 11th resolution and in part he had not.

On motion, it was ordered that Revs. J. A. Linn and L. C. Groseclose be a Committee to collect the scattered archives of Synod into the trunk to be bought and deposit the same in the Library of the Western Carolina Male Academy.

In regard to the 43rd resolution, the following resolution was offered:

2. *Resolved*, That the former Secretary have bound in half binding, a file of the Minutes of our Synod from this time to a period as far back as he may be able to collect, and deposit the same in the archives.

Item 2nd was referred back to the Committee to be reported on at the next meeting of Synod. This is based on the 35th resolution of last year's Minutes.

Mr. Henry Barringer, Commissioner from Union and St. Paul Pastorate, asked and obtained leave of absence from further attendance on the sessions of this Synod.

The hour for preaching having arrived, Synod suspended business till after the meeting of the Education and Missionary Society.

Closed with prayer by the President.

A sermon was preached from Luke xvi. 31.

After the adjournment of the Education and Missionary Society, Synod met for business; a motion to adjourn till 8 o'clock to-morrow, A. M., prevailed, so that no further business was done.

Closed with prayer.

FOURTH SESSION.

Tuesday, 8 *o'clock*, *A. M.*

Synod was opened with prayer by Bro. Harter. The Minutes of yesterday were read and confirmed.

The Committee on the President's Report present the following:

They have examined it and find but one item which they think necessary to bring to the notice of Synod, viz:

The death of Rev. JACOB GRIESON. [See Appendix A.]

In relation to this item the Committee would recommend the following:

WHEREAS, It has pleased an All-wise Providence to remove from us, by death, the Rev. Jacob Grieson, an aged and pious member of this body: therefore,

Resolved, That we, together with his bereaved friends, lament the decease of this aged father, and that we will ever keep in memory his good example and christian virtues.

Resolved, That a copy of the above preamble and resolution be sent by the Secretary to the relatives of the deceased

Your Committee recommend that the President's report be printed and appended to the Minutes of Synod, omitting that portion which relates to the correspondence between Bro. Artz and the President.

Respectfully submitted,

W. GERHARDT,
M. BARRIER,
J. S. HEILIG.

Adopted.

Committee on Petitions and vacancies present the following:

Your Committee would report that all that has been before them, is a petition from Richland Church, Randolph County, signed by a number of the members of said Church, requesting this Synod to hold its next annual meeting in their midst. We recommend their petition to the consideration of Synod when balloting for the place for the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

BENJ. AREY,
JACOB THOMAS,
D. D. LENTZ.

Adopted.

The Committee on Collections reported the following:

The Committee to whom was referred the reception of contributions intended for Synod, beg leave to present the following:

From Rev. J. A. Linn's Charge.

St. Paul's,	$3 00	
" Matthew's,	3 08	$6 08

From Rev. W. G. Harter's Charge.

Bethel,	1 00	
Mt. Carmel,	80	
Luther's Church,	1 00	$2 80

From Rev. John D. Scheck's Charge.

Luther's Chapel,	3 00	
St. John's,	8 00	$11 00

From Rev. S. Rothrock's Charge.

Organ (Zion) Church,	12 00	
St. Stephen's,	2 20	$14 20

From Rev. S. Scherer's Charge.

St. Paul's,	3 68¾	
Lau's,	2 15	
Additional collection,	4 00	
Richland Church,	1 92	
Frieden's,	1 80	
Coble's,	1 06	14 61

From Rev. B. Arey's Charge.

St. Michael's,	2 30	
Cross Roads,	50	2 80

From Rev. J. S. Heilig's Charge.

St. Enoch's,	3 00	
Salem,	95	3 95

From Rev. J. Swicegood's Charge.

Newton,	1 25	
St. Paul's,	2 11¼	3 36¼

From Rev. L. C. Groseclose's Charge.

Beck's,	1 41¼	
Pilgrim,	2 30	
Sandy Creek,	3 50	
Philip Swicegood, Sr.,	40	
Frederick Town Synodical collection,	5 60	13 21¼

From Rev. J. Crim's Charge.

Bethel,	1 00	
St. Matthew's	75	
Jerusalem,	40	2 15

From Rev. D. J. Dreher's Charge.

St. James'	4 85¼

From Vacant Congregations.

Salisbury Church,	1 00	
Union "	1 75	2 75
Total,		$83 61*

Respectfully submitted,

D. J. DREHER,

D. M. WAGNER,

J. A. HEATHCOCK.

Adopted.

On motion, Synod suspended business, and took a recess till after the meeting of the Education and Missionary Society. During the recess, the Rev. Joseph A. Linn preach-

*The Secretary finds an error in footing up the above moneys, amounting to $5 83 cents, which he has corrected. The Committee reported the amount to be $77 77. I have also received from Rev. S. Scherer's charge $1 00, and 81 cents from Nazareth Church intended for Synod. Total, $10 64 cents additional.

ed from Heb. iii, 1. After recess, Synod resumed its business.

The Report of the President of Western Carolina Male Academy was presented.

To the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of North Carolina, to meet at Fredericktown, Davidson County, North Carolina, on Friday before the first Sunday in May, 1855.

It is my duty, as President of the Board of Directors of Western Carolina Male Academy, to report to you the state and condition of said Institution. It will be seen by my last report, that we had purchased sufficient for all building purposes, and had let out the main building, which was to have been completed by the first of January last; this was impossible, inasmuch as undertaker Weddington could not obtain lumber in consequence of the continued drouth. The Building Committee have also let out the Professor's house, under the direction of the Board, for $1425, he having come, and having no house for him—trusting in the liberality of our Churches, believed they would help to pay for the same.

I would suggest to Synod the propriety of withholding from the South Carolina Synod, the interest annually sent them for the right of a Director in their Seminary, if it can be done without violating the agreement entered into between them and you. It is absolutely necessary that we should husband all our resources between this and October next.

The Board, at its last meeting, appointed a Committee to employ an Agent to visit all the Churches within the bounds of Synod, and solicit donations or building purposes. The time has been too short to procure one yet, but they expect to do so as soon as they can. The Board wants the name of every donor, together with the amount, to record them in a book kept for that purpose, however small the amount given may be. The cheerful giver is always rewarded.

The last Synod passed a resolution requesting every Minister in their bounds to solicit donations for building purposes. This has been partially attended to by Revs. Heilig, Scherer, Rothrock, and Linn; but we are still minus something like $2947 00. Although this is a considerable sum, yet we believe if those Churches that have given nothing, and those that have given but a small sum, be called upon, the debt will be paid.

In examining the Treasurer's accounts, I find he has paid, for various purposes, $3858 00, and has on hand in cash and good subscriptions $2278 00, and the debt contracted is $5225 00. We have in doubtful subscriptions

$159 00, which I did not count; hence you will see that we are minus the amount I before stated.

The main building will be completed in a few months—the plastering is being put on—when it is done, we shall have to make a payment of $3500 00, and the balance in October next. The details of our expenses I have not given, but if required, they can be given by some member of the Board in your midst.

The Treasurer of Scholarships has disposed of 50, and collected a part of the money which he has invested in State bonds, under the direction of the Board. I would here remark, that the Treasurers of both funds have done their duty faithfully.

We are now entering a new era in the history of our Church in North Carolina. Heretofore we have been sending our money North and South to build up institutions of Learning, under the belief that we were too poor to build ourselves;—but this was all a mistake—for we have one now nearly completed, and have commenced school under very flattering circumstances, and if fostered and protected by all the Churches in our Synod, will soon vie with any institution of a similar kind in the State.

Look at all other denominations of professing christians around you, and see whether they have not their institutions of learning; and whether those who foster and protect them best, do not increase and flourish most.

The Rev. W. Gerhardt is to be inaugurated on the 1st day of the next session as Principal of our Institution, when every Lutheran within the bounds of the Synod is invited to come. I believe it will be on the 24th of May next. I will here remark, that it is possible I may have forgotten something that I should have brought to the notice of Synod; if so, I hope some one of the members of the Board there present will supply it.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Adopted. C. MELCHOR, P. B.

On motion, leave of absence from further attendance on the sessions of this Synod, was granted to Messrs. Hoffman, Thomas and Heathcock, for the reasons they assigned for asking it.

3. *Resolved*, That the interest now due on the Seminary Fund be paid to the Treasurer of the Seminary of South Carolina by the President at his earliest convenience.

4. *Resolved*, That a Committee of three Clerical members from different sections of this Synod be appointed to resolve said Synod into the Conferential Districts contemplated by the revised Constitution.

Committee—Revs. B. Arey, J. A. Linn, and S. Scherer.

5. *Resolved*, That the agreement entered into with the Synod of South Carolina by this Synod in the support of the Theological Seminary at Lexington, S. C., by the payment of the yearly interest of the funded capital for education, be, and is hereby dissolved—that said fund be transferred to the Board of Directors of Western Carolina Male Academy, to be under the control and direction of the same for its use and benefit; and lastly, that said fund, without its proceeds, be subject to an order of withdrawal by this Synod at any time.

6. *Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to settle with the Treasurer of Seminary fund, receive the funds and pay them over to the Board of Directors of Western Carolina Male Academy, as contemplated in the foregoing resolution.

Committee—Revs. Linn & Rothrock, and N. Lefler, Esq.

On motion, it was ordered that the Treasurer of Synod pay the Treasurer of the Endowment fund of Western Carolina Male Academy $30 towards paying the Professor's first month's salary.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

The Committee on Finance beg leave to report that they have the reports of the Treasurers of the Synod and Seminary, and infer from the vouchers in hand that they are correct. They have paid over the funds belonging to Synod to the Treasurer and taken his bond.

Respectfully submitted,

W. G. HARTER,
DAVID HAGEE,
MONROE BARGER.

Adopted.

The Treasurer of Seminary Fund would respectfully report as follows, viz:

One Note	Prin $137 00—int.	$8 22	-	-	-	$145 22
" "	" 500 00—int.	30 00	-	-	-	530 00
" "	" 294 00—int.	17 64	-	-	-	311 64
" "	" 107 50—int.	6 45	-	-	-	113 95
					-	$1160 81

Respectfully submitted,

MOSES BARRIER, Treas.

The Treasurer of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of North Carolina, would respectfully report as follows:

Balance in hand last year - - - -		$36 80¾
Contributions received at last Synod - .		71 06¼
Total - - - - -		$107 87
Paid Rev. S. Rothrock, as per order of Synod,	$7 55	
" " W. G. Harter, " " "	2 00	
" " L. C. Groseclose " " "	6 19	
" Messrs. Miller & James, " Secretary,	60 00	—75 74
Balance in hand - - - -		$32 13

Respectfully submitted,

MATTHIAS BARRIER, Treas.

On motion, an election was entered into to fill the vacancy in the Board of Directors of Western Carolina Male Academy, occasioned by the expiration of the term of Revs. Linn and Harter, and Messrs. J. Shimpoch and C. A. Heilig.

Revs. J. A. Linn and J. S. Heilig and Messrs. J. Shimpoch and C. A. Heilig were elected for three years.

On motion, ordered that the $1 20, interest on Centenary fund, sent up from Bethel Church, Stanly County, be paid to the Education and Missionary Society.

On motion, Synod adjourned till 8 o'clock, A. M., tomorrow.

Closed with prayer by the President.

FIFTH SESSION.

Wednesday, 8 o'clock, A. M.

Synod met again, and after half an hour spent in devotional exercises, proceeded to business. The Minutes were read and confirmed.

At the special request of Mrs. Lindsay, the Secretary obtained leave of absence to attend the funeral of J. W. Lindsay, Esq. Leave of absence was also granted J. D. Bodenhamer for the same purpose.

THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF RELIGION.

The Committee on the state of Religion, within the bounds of this Synod, have collected the following items, to wit:

Bro. Harter. "There is one prayer-meeting within the bounds of my charge—one Sunday School in progress, and efforts are making to organize another."

Bro. Crim. "My Churches can by no means be said to be in a state of revival at this time, but during the past Synodical year, I had a revival at Bethel Church, which resulted in the conversion of a few immortal souls.—The state of things in my Churches is at this time interesting, especially at St. Matthews."

Bro. Scherer. "During the past year I have enjoyed special seasons of refreshing from the presence of the Lord. At several camp-meetings, as many as 80 souls were hopefully converted to God, and 65 added to the Church."

Bro. Rothrock. "There has been no special out-pouring of the Holy Spirit at Organ Church during the past year; yet the public preaching of the Gospel has been well attended, and a general desire evinced to receive instruction from the Bible—53 persons were added to the Church by the rite of confirmation."

Bro. Heilig. "The attendance upon the ministrations of God's house is usually good, and close attention is paid to the preached word. I hope there are not a few who have experienced the saving power of God's grace, and are going on to perfection."

Bro. Linn. "There have been no very special manifestations of the Divine Spirit in my charge during the past Synodical year. Preaching and the ordinances of God's house have been well attended. An increased spirit of liberality is manifest. There has been a very extensive circulation of religious books, and they are carefully read by the people generally. There have been several conversions during the year."

Bro. Groseclose. "The state of religion in my charge is improving. But few cases of discipline have been before the Councils. About 120 persons have professed a change of heart, 40 of whom have united with our Church. My Churches continue to contribute liberally towards my support, and the benevolent institutions of the Church."

Your Committee are gratified to learn that during the past year a comfortable parsonage has been erected in the last named Brother's charge. This noble example is commended to the attention and imitation of all our Congregations.

Bro. Dreher. "The state of religion in my charge is improving; preaching, prayer-meetings and Sabbath Schools are encouragingly attended."

Bro. Scheck. "No special visitations of the Divine Spirit have been enjoyed in my charge during the past year; yet the ordinances of God's house are well attended. Fifty-three persons have been added to the Church by confirmation and letter."

No reports have been received from the rest of the brethren, and consequently we have nothing from them to report.

Respectfully submitted,

J. D. SCHECK,
J. SWICEGOOD,
J. D. BODENHAMER.

Adopted.

The Constitution was again taken up, the amendments proposed by the Committee to revise, considered, and in its amended form finally adopted as a whole. In regard to the above, the following was adopted:

Resolved, That the amended Constitution be referred back to bro. Linn to transcribe and prepare it for the press.

Resolved, That the Constitution be printed and appended to the Minutes of Synod. (See Appendix B.)

7. *Resolved*, That the President of Synod be authorized to let out the Scholarships in Western Carolina Male Academy belonging to this Synod.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CONFERENTIAL DISTRICTS.

The Committee to whom was referred the division of our Synodical bounds into Conferential Districts, would recommend the following:

1. That the Synodical territory be divided into three Districts.

2. That District No. 1 be called the *Eastern District*—that it embrace all the congregations in Guilford, Alamance, Randolph, Davidson and Forsythe Counties.

3. That District No. 2 be called the *Central District*—that it embrace the congregations West of the Yadkin River, and South of the Central Rail-Road, in the Counties of Stanly, Cabarrus and Rowan, except the Concord Pastorate.

4. That District No. 3 be called the *Western District*—that it embrace the Concord Pastorate, and all the congregations North and West of the Central Rail-Road, lying in the Counties of Davie, Rowan, Cabarrus, Iredell, Lincoln and Catawba.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. LINN,
BENJ. AREY.
S. SCHERER.

Adopted.

In reference to the above, the following meetings were appointed:

Resolved, That the 1st meeting in the Eastern District be held at Coble's Church, Guilford County, on the 4th Sabbath in July.

Resolved, That the 1st meeting in the Central District be held at Organ Church, Rowan County, on the last Sabbath in July.

Resolved, That the 1st meeting in the Western District be held at St. Michael's Church, Iredell County, on the last Sabbath in July.

8. *Resolved*, That this Synod regards the manufacture of, and traffic in and use of, ardent spirits as a beverage, inconsistent with christian character—that no member of our Churches should be indulged in the manufacture, traffic, or intemperate use of intoxicating liquors—and that all our Pastors, Church Councils and members be urgently and most earnestly requested to co-operate in suppressing the great evil of drunkenness in our country and the world.

On motion, an election of Delegates to Ecclesiastical bodies was entered into.

1. To the General Synod: Revs. Linn and Rothrock, and Mr. P. N. Heilig, principal; and Revs. Harter and Heilig, and Messrs. D. M. Wagner and N. Lefler, Alternates.

2. To the Synod of South Carolina: Rev. J. S. Heilig, principal, and Rev. W. G. Harter, alternate.

3. To the Synod of Western Virginia: Rev. L. C. Groseclose, principal, and Rev. S. Scherer, alternate.

The time and place for the next meeting of Synod was, by ballot, determined. Place, St. Enoch's Church, Rowan County, N. C. Time, Friday before the 1st Sabbath in May, 1856.

9. *Resolved*, That when Synod adjourns, it stand adjourned to meet at the place and time above named.

10. *Resolved*, That twelve hundred copies of the Minutes of Synod be printed; that two copies be sent to each Synod with which we are in regular correspondence, and one to every other Lutheran Synod in the United States.

11. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Synod be presented to the Congregation at Fredericktown, for the hospitable manner in which we have been

entertained, and that the Pastor read this resolution from the pulpit at his convenience.

12. *Resolved*, That an abstract of the proceedings of the Education and Missionary Society be appended to the Minutes of Synod. [See Appendix C.]

The Minutes were read and confirmed.

13. *Resolved*, That we now adjourn to meet at St. Enoch's Church, on Friday before the 1st Sabbath in May, 1856.

Closed with singing and prayer by the President.

I certify that the foregoing is a faithful transcript of the notes of this Synod as taken during its sessions.

L. C. GROSECLOSE,
Recording Secretary.

MINUTES OF THE MINISTERIUM.

FIRST SESSION.

Friday, 4 *o'clock*, *P. M.*

The first session was opened with prayer by Rev. W. Gerhardt.

The sermons and journal of Rev. D. I. Dreher referred to the Ministerium, were, on motion, referred to a Committee to examine and report on the same.

Committee—Revs. J. A. Linn and J. Swicegood.

On motion, the Ministerium adjourned, subject to the call of the President.

Closed with a benediction.

SECOND SESSION.

Monday, 5 1-2 o'clock, *P. M.*

The Ministerium was opened with prayer by Rev. J. S. Heilig.

The Minutes of former session were read and confirmed.

The Committee on sermons and journal of Rev. D. I. Dreher reported as follows:

The Committee to whom were referred the sermons and journal of Rev. D. I. Dreher report the following, viz:

1. Your Committee would commend the course adopted by Bro. Dreher in keeping a full and complete journal of all his Ministerial acts. It appears from

said journal that Bro. D. has been actively engaged in the duties of the sacred office of the Ministry.

2. With the journal they find three sermons and a number of skeletons.—In regard to them we remark, that easy and natural themes have been deduced from the several texts; the divisions and sub-divisions are in the main well arranged; the ideas are clothed in appropriate language, and in a number of instances happily and forcibly presented by Scripture illustrations.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. LINN.

Adopted. J. SWICEGOOD.

The Rev. Bryant C. Hall, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was, at his request, admitted to a colloquium, as an applicant for examination, with a view to his connection with the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of North Carolina.—It was, on motion,

Resolved, That he be admitted to an examination.

On motion, the Ministerium adjourned to meet at 7 1-2 o'clock, to-morrow, A. M.

Closed with a benediction.

THIRD SESSION.

Tuesday, 7 1-2 o'clock, A. M.

The Ministerium met and was opened with the singing of a hymn and prayer by Bro. Arey. The Minutes were read and confirmed.

Rev. Hall was, according to resolution, admitted to examination. On motion, a Committee of two were appointed to conduct the examination. *Committee*—Revs. Artz and Scheck. The other brethren were afterwards called on to ask additional questions. They did so, and all expressed their satisfaction in regard to his answers on the various topics on which he was examined. In view of which it was

1. *Resolved*, That inasmuch as the examination of Bro. Hall was unanimously sustained; That in the event Bro. Hall furnishes the Officers of Synod with an honorable dismissson from the denomination to which he belongs; and in the event he submits to a course of Theology, prescribed by this Ministerium, then they shall furnish him with License to preach the Gospel.

The Ministerium adjourned subject to the call of the President.

Closed with a benediction.

FOURTH SESSION.

The Ministerium was opened with prayer by brother Swicegood. The minutes were read and confirmed.

On motion, a Committee was appointed to prescribe to brother Hall a course of Theological Studies.

Committee—Rev's. Artz and Gerhardt.

The subject of the renewal of brother Dreher's license was taken up, discussed and laid over till to-morrow. Adjourned, subject to the call of the President.

Closed with the benediction.

FIFTH SESSION.

The Ministerium met, and was opened with prayer, by brother Artz. The minutes of yesterday were read and confirmed.

The Committee appointed to prescribe a course of study, presented the following, viz:

The Committee would recommend to Rev. Hall,

1. The prayerful reading and study of the Sacred Scriptures of the Old and New Testament.
2. Natural Theology. (Paley's.)
3. Revealed Theology. (Schmucker's Popular Theology.)
4. Pastoral Theology. (Miller's Letters.)

5. Church History. (Murdock's Mosheim.) American Lutheran Church, (Smucker's) and Formula of Discipline for the Government of Lutheran Congregations.

6. Jewish and Christian Antiquities, (Horne's Introduction, or Appendix to the Comprehensive Com.

7. Evidence of Christianity, (Horne's Introduction, or Gregory's Letters, or Paley's, Leslie's, &c., in one volume.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM ARTZ,
WM. GERHARDT.

Adopted.

In relation to brother Dreher's license, the following preamble and resolution were adopted, viz:

Inasmuch as our Constitution makes no provision to receive or acknowledge a "*perpetual license*," issued by another Synod, or Ministerium, therefore

2. *Resolved*, That the license of brother D. .I Dreher be renewed, subject to the order of this Ministerium.

On motion, the Ministerium closed with prayer by brother Gerhardt.

L. C. GROSECLOSE,
Recording Secretary.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

Dear Brethren—Through the tender mercies of God, we are permitted to meet here in the capacity of an Ecclesiastical body. Another Synodical year has passed away, and with it many of our race have passed from a probationary into an eternal state. In relation to them, probation is at an end, and their condition is final; but in relation to us, we are still in the enjoyment of life, and of the means of grace. Our Annual Synodical meetings should be regarded as appropriate seasons for a revision of the past, as well as for the formation of good purposes, and the adoption of judicious plans for the future.

We should review the past in relation to the unnumbered mercies by which we are surrounded. When we contemplate the various manifestations of Divine goodness, we may indeed adopt the sentiment of an ancient pious servant of God: "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life." Ps. xxiii, 6. Although we have to mourn the loss by death of an aged and pious minister of this Synod, and to lament the death of many valuable members of the different congregations in our connection, yet it becomes us to bow in humble submission to the will of our gracious Father in heaven, and to heed the admonition of our Divine Redeemer; "Therefore, be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of Man cometh." Matthew xxiv, 44. The mercies by which we are surround-

ed, are indeed of a manifold nature; will at once present themselves to the reflective mind, in various points of view; and furnish the humble pious heart with abundant matter for gratitude and praise. The fruits of the earth, if not so abundant as in some former years, have nevertheless been amply sufficient to meet the wants and to supply the necessities of the people. Whilst some other nations of the world have been involved in war, and in all its attendant and consequent sufferings and distresses, our own land has been the abode of peace and happiness. In common with all other religious denominations, we enjoy the unmolested right of private judgment, and the liberty, as a Church, to adopt such forms and usages in religious worship, as to us may seem most in harmony with the sacred Scriptures.

Our educational advantages are increasing, and the facilities for improvement in useful and religious knowledge are constantly becoming greater; and with this increase of advantages, our obligations to activity and fidelity in the service of the Master, are correspondingly augmented. Hence, we should review the past, also, in relation to ourselves; the manner in which we have discharged our various duties as embassadors for Christ. Various and important duties devolve upon us as "stewards for the mysteries of God." Immortal souls, for whose redemption the Saviour shed his blood, are committed to our charge. Upon our faithfulness or unfaithfulness will depend, in a great measure, their eternal weal or woe. Upon us, it devolves to preach with all diligence, sincerity and earnestness, the simple and unadulterated doctrines of the gospel of Christ. As watchmen, appointed to watch for souls, we must "cry aloud and spare not"; we must be "instant in season and and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort with all long-suffering and doc-

trine"; and not neglect "to show the people their sins, and the house of Jacob their transgressions." In addition to the faithful public preaching of the gospel, we should also exhibit to the world, in our daily conversation and deportment, an exemplification of that piety which we statedly inculcate from the pulpit. We should always, at all times and in all places, under all circumstances, and in all relations, exhibit to those around us, an example of conscientious obedience to God, and of entire devotedness to his service. But, when we review the past in relation to ourselves, we will no doubt, have abundant cause to mourn on account of many delinquencies in the performance of duty, and discover abundant reason for humiliation before God. We should, therefore, humbly confess our past short comings, our want of zeal and diligence in the work assigned us, and resolve on a more entire consecration of ourselves, both body and mind, to the service of God in the work of the ministry.

Let us, therefore, brethren of the ministry and of the laity, under the direction of the enlightening and guiding influences of the divine Spirit, endeavor to take enlarged views on the subject of christian duty, in the various departments of piety, and prayerfully unite our counsels and deliberations in the adoption of such measures, as, by the divine blessing, may be promotive of the peace, the harmony, and the prosperity of our beloved Church.

It becomes my duty to inform you of the death of Rev'd Jacob Grieson, an aged and pious member of this Synod. He died at the residence of his son in Guilford County, August 13, 1854, in the 87th year of his age. From the Lutheran Observer of September 1, 1854, we learn the following:

"Father Grieson was born in Guilford County, and lived all his days in the same. He was converted under the ministry of Rev. Paul Hinkle, after he had been some years a member of the Church. The work of grace in his soul was thorough, and produced as its effect ardent love to the Saviour, and an intense concern for the salvation of souls.—At that time the religious destitution in North Carolina was very great, and the deceased felt impelled to prepare himself to preach the gospel. He was licensed to preach when Rev'ds Hinkle, Stork, Shober, &c., were the pillars of the Lutheran Church.

"In his old age, he was want to preach occasionally in out of the way places, to hold prayer-meetings, and to visit the sick. His last work on earth, two days before he died, was to walk several miles to visit a sick lady. He dealt faithfully with souls, and few ever approached him who were not instructed, encouraged, warned, or reproved for sin.—We doubt not he has met in heaven many a wanderer reclaimed by his fidelity.

"Father Grieson was devoid of sectarian bigotry; he recognized all as brethren who loved Jesus, and rejoiced in the prosperity of every evangelical denomination. This made him beloved by all, and reverenced as a man of God. Few men have a greater sense of the exceeding sinfulness of sin than he had, and so much loathed self. Jesus was his complete salvation, and in him he trusted as the Lord his Righteousness. The Master called him away suddenly. For years he lived with his loins girt about him, watching for the coming of his Lord. It was not permitted him to bear a dying testimony to the preciousness of religion.—There was no need. His life had been a long and faithful testimony to its power and possession."

According to constitutional requirements, I will lay before you an account of my official acts since the last meeting of Synod.

On the 23rd of last October, I received a letter from Rev. D. I. Dreher, a licentiate of the Synod of South Carolina, informing me that he had received and accepted of a call to the pastoral charge of St. James' Church, in Concord. He also informed me, that he had removed to Concord with a view of becoming pastor of the congregation. This arrangement met with my approval. Brother Dreher appears to be laboring zealously, and to the general satisfaction of the people of his charge. May the divine favor rest upon pastor and people.

On the 5th of February, I received a letter from Rev. S. Scherer, informing me of his intention to serve the congregations in Guilford and Alamance Counties. He stated that he had received an almost unanimous call from the five Congregations; would have a very extensive field to cultivate, and much material for usefulness; and would labor to build up several of the weaker congregations, that a division of the district might soon be formed.

Sometime during the first of March, I had a personal interview with Rev. J. Swicegood, at which time he informed me, that he was preaching as a supply in St. Paul's Church, Iredell County, and in Newton, Catawba County, and expected to continue to serve those congregations in that capacity, until the present meeting of Synod.

On the 8th of April, I received a letter from Rev. Joseph A. Linn, stating, that at a meeting of all the Councils composing the "Gold Hill Pastorate," a regular constitutional call was tendered him, in which they requested his services as their Pastor. He further stated, that in consideration of his proximity to this charge, and in the hope that he could

accomplish as much for Christ and the welfare of immortal souls in this as in any contiguous charge, he had accepted of the call.

According to the sixth resolution of the Ministerium of last year, the fourth Sunday in August last, was designated as the time, and St. Enoch's Church as the place, for the ordination by the officers of the Ministerium, of Rev. J. S. Heilig. In consequence of sickness on the part of your President, the ordination of brother Heilig was not attended to at the time appointed, but was deferred to a subsequent period. On the fifth Sunday in October, however, the officers of the Ministerium met at St. Enoch's Church, and after an impressive and appropriate sermon by the Secretary, proceeded to ordain him conformably to constitutional requirements, by prayer and the laying on of hands. After the ordination ceremonies, the Lord's Supper was administered to a large number of communicants, and the congregation then dismissed with the usual benediction.

The Convention called by this Synod, at its last meeting, for the purpose of forming the congregations within its bounds into Pastoral Districts, met at the time and place disignated by Synod, entered upon the work assigned to it, and will no doubt report the result of its action to this meeting. It is believed that the plan of forming all our congregations into suitable *pastorates*, if faithfully carried out on the part of Ministers and People, will ultimately work beneficially and be productive of good results. It will introduce system and a settled mode of operation into our pastoral arrangements, and by forming a chain of mutual dependencies, will be productive of a spirit of conciliation between the several Congregations united, and between the Congregations and their Pastor. Order is essential to success in any enterprise; "it is the soul of every religious,

as well as civil society; and the strictest order is compatible with freedom of conscience." It is believed that no business, whether of a religious or secular nature, can be advantageously and successfully carried on without the adoption of judicious laws and regulations for the government of all concerned. Where there is a want of rule and order, in the prosecution of any work, more or less confusion will necessarily ensue; and to the extent of the confusion, will the success and prosperity of the work be retarded.

I am happy in being able to inform you, that Rev. William Gerhardt, who was elected at the last meeting of Synod to the first Professorship in Western Carolina Male Academy, accepted of the call extended to him, and has already entered upon the duties of his office. He removed with his family to Mount Pleasant in January last, and opened the exercises of the Academy on the first day of March. Although the first session commenced under unfavorable circumstances, as the Academy edifice is not yet completed, the number of students was nevertheless encouraging. A full report in relation to the Academy, will no doubt be presented to this meeting by the President of the Board of Directors. We commend this School to your continued sympathies and prayers. It will become necessary for you at this meeting to elect four Directors, as the term of office of four of the present number now expires. So also will it become necessary for you to elect a Treasurer of Seminary Fund.

I now retire from office, tendering to you my sincere gratitude for your confidence, and commending you to the gracious direction of the divine Spirit in your present deliberations. Let us take enlarged and expansive views on the subject of christian duty, and co-operate in the fear and

love of God in devising and maturing such measures, as shall contribute to the furtherance of the Redeemer's kingdom on earth. Amen.

SAMUEL ROTHROCK.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Education and Missionary Society

OF THE

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD

OF

NORTH CAROLINA.

The Missionary and Education Society met, pursuant to adjournment, and proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, which resulted as follows:

Rev. JOSEPH A. LINN, President,
" D. I. DREHER, Vice President,
" J. S. HEILIG, Secretary,
Capt. D. M. ISENHOUR, Treasurer.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to receive all monies intended for this Society, pay them over to the Treasurer elect and take his bond.

Committee—Rev. J. S. Heilig, D. M. Wagner and N. Lefler, Esqrs.

The Committee appointed at the last meeting to correct the discrepancy in the Treasurer's report, submitted the following:

Upon a careful examination of the subject, we discover that the Committee appointed to audit the report of the Treasurer for 1853, committed an error in their report. Your Treasurer of last year, in framing *his* report, adopted *that* as correct data, and fell, consequently, into the same mistake. This, in the opinion of your Committee, accounts satisfactorily for the discrepancy alluded to. Respectfully,

J. S. HEILIG,
M. BARRIER.

The Treasurer's report was now handed in and received. On motion,

Resolved, That the Treasurer's report be referred back to him to report to our next annual meeting.

Resolved, That the Treasurer be authorised to collect the claims of this Society against W. H. Fink, with as little delay as possible.

President appointed as Executive Committee—

Rev's. William G. Harter, Samuel Rothrock, John D. Scheck, L. C. Groseclose and J. Swicegood.

Board of Directors.—Rev'd Jacob Crim, D. D. Lentz, J. Haynes, Esq., M. Barrier, D. M. Wagner, N. Lefler, Esq., David Hegee, D. Hoffman, J. D. Bodenhamer, D. Sink, J. J. Miller and Monroe Barger.

A letter from W. C. Sloop, asking aid from this Society in the prosecution of his studies, was read, upon which it was

Resolved, That it be referred to the Executive Committee.

An amendment to the Constitution being under consideration, it was

Resolved, That Rev's. Heilig and Harter be appointed a Committee to draft a Constitution for the Missionary Society, and that Rev's. Harter and Heilig be a Committee to draft a Constitution for Education Society.

Moved to adjourn till after divine service to-morrow.
Closed with the benediction.

SECOND SESSION.

Tuesday, P. M.

Opened with prayer by brother Crim.

The Committee to receive contributions reported the following:

Collection on Sabbath, - - -	$ 8 95
Members of Society, - - - -	15 70
Rev. J. Heilig's charge, - - - -	6 50
" L. C. Groseclose, charge, - -	1 76
" J. Crim, - - - - - -	3 00
Mr. Hill, - - - - - - -	50
Single individual, - - - - -	50
Total, - - - - - -	$36 19

The President appointed, Rev. Samuel Rothrock to preach the Missionary Sermon at our next annual meeting, and Rev. L. C. Groseclose, alternate.

On motion,

Resolved, That the minutes of this Society be printed and appended to the minutes of Synod.

Minutes read and confirmed.

Resolved, That we now adjourn to meet again on Monday one o'clock, P. M., at the time and place of our next meeting of Synod.

Closed with a benediction by the President.

JOHN S. HEILIG, *Secretary.*

CONSTITUTION

FOR THE MEMBERS COMPOSING THE

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD

OF

NORTH CAROLINA.

CHAPTER I.

OF THE SYNOD.

SECTION 1. We, whose names are subscribed to this Constitution, the *Ministers of the Evangelical Lutheran Churches of North Carolina*, having united ourselves into one body, signify hereby that we desire to be known as "THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD AND MINISTERIUM OF NORTH CAROLINA"; and we solemnly promise to govern and regulate ourselves by the following Constitution.

SEC. 2. This Synod shall consist of all the Ministers, licensed Candidates and Lay-Delegates, duly authorised to represent the Congregations within their respective Districts.

SEC. 3. The number of lay-votes shall not exceed that of the ordained Clergymen and Licentiates; and if a Lay-Del-

egate be present from a Pastorate in which there is no stated Minister, he shall have a seat and the liberty of speech, but no vote: But if a Lay-Delegate be present from a Pastorate in which there is a stated Minister, he shall have equal privileges with the other Lay-Delegates.

Sec. 4. It is the duty of this Synod to see that the rules of government and discipline prescribed in the Formula, are observed by all the Congregations and Ministers within its bounds, to receive appeals from decisions of Church Councils and of Special Conferences, when regularly brought before them, and review and reverse or confirm the decisions to which they refer; to examine and decide on all charges against Ministers and Licentiates,—that of heterodoxy alone excepted, to form and change Pastoral Districts, to provide supplies for destitute Congregations, and to devise and execute suitable measures for the promotion of piety, and the general prosperity of the Church.

Sec. 5. In the investigation of a charge against a Minister or Licentiate, the Synod and Ministerium shall have power to cite any Church member within their bounds to appear before them, and to endeavor to obtain other witnesses when the case may require it.

Sec. 6. If any Congregation in connection with this Synod, should refuse to observe the provisions of its Constitution or of the Formula, (see chap. 4 of Formula) it shall be excluded from connection with said Synod during the time of its refusal: nor shall any Minister or Licentiate belonging to the Synod, take charge of it without special permission of the President.

Sec. 7. Any Congregation, situated within the bounds of this Synod, may become connected with it by acceding to the provisions of its Constitution and Formula of Disci-

pline, and making some annual contribution towards defraying the expenses of said Synod. For this purpose, annual collections ought to be held in each Congregation.

Sec. 8. At least one meeting of the Synod shall be held every year, at such time and place as may be determined on by said Synod.

Sec. 9. The President shall call a special meeting of Synod, when requested so to do by one-third of the Ordained Ministers of the Synod, to convene at such time and place as he, or in his absence his substitute, shall appoint; at least four weeks notice being given of said meeting in some paper of the Church, or by a letter addressed to each member of Synod.

Sec. 10. No Minister or Licentiate shall be absent from the meeting of the Synod without the most urgent necessity. In case of his absence, he shall if possible, send to the President a written apology for his absence. Voluntary ministerial engagements shall not be regarded as a sufficient excuse. Any Minister, (ordained or licensed) violating the provisions of this section, shall be called to account by the President at the next meeting.

Sec. 11. All letters and papers intended for the Synod or Ministerium, *must* be addressed to the President.

Sec. 12. The Minister of the place in which the Synod is held, with the Church Council, shall endeavor to provide for the entertainment of Ministers, Candidates, and Lay-Delegates by christian friends.

Sec. 13. All the members of the Synod shall endeavor to assemble on the evening preceding the day appointed.

Sec. 14. Divine worship shall be celebrated during the meeting of the Synod, as often as may be convenient and consistent with the business of the Synod; and that Synod

devote half an hour each morning before the commencement of business in prayer, for the special influence and guidance of the Holy Spirit in all our deliberations, and for the exercise of all due fraternal love and fellowship.

Sec. 15. Ministerial Delegates from other Lutheran Synods shall be entitled to a seat, and to participate in all our Synodical transactions, except that of voting.

Sec. 16. Ministers of good standing in orthodox ecclesiastical bodies or sister Churches, who may be present, or who appear as delegates from said bodies, may be received as advisory members, but cannot vote in any of the decisions of the Synod.

Sec. 17. All the Treasurers of the different funds under the control of this Synod, and also the President of the Board of Directors of "Western Carolina Male Academy," shall be received as advisory members of this Synod, and allowed the same privileges as other advisory members.

CHAPTER II.

OFFICERS OF THE SYNOD.

Sec. 1. The officers of the Synod shall be a President, Corresponding and Recording Secretaries and Treasurer, who, except the Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer, shall be the officers of the Ministerium.

Sec. 2. All these officers shall be chosen annually by ballot, by a majority of the votes of the Ministers and Lay-Delegates present; the President and Secretaries from among the Ordained Ministers, but the Treasurer may be chosen from among the Lay-Members of the Church.

Sec. 3. The President and Recording Secretary shall not be eligible for more than three successive years, but the Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer shall always be re-eligible.

OF THE PRESIDENT.

Sec. 4. The President shall deliver a Synodical Discourse at the meeting of every Synod; and he shall, in connexion with the pastor *loci*, appoint the other individuals who are to preach during the session.

Sec. 5. He shall, at the beginning of every Synod, make a written report of all the official business transacted and letters received by him since the last meeting, and of all the important events which have occurred relating to the Synod, and may recommend for their consideration, such measures as he may deem necessary, or calculated to promote the cause of God. This report shall be laid on the table, and dealt with as all other papers coming before the body.

Sec. 6 He shall preside at all meetings of the Synod and Ministerium.

Sec. 7. The President has a right to take part in the discussion as well as any other member. When the house is equally divided on any question, he has the casting vote. In all other cases he has no suffrage, except when an election is held by ballot, and then he has not the casting vote.

Sec. 8. The President shall preserve order, not suffer more than one member to speak at a time, secure to each person liberty to speak without interruption from others, and shall prevent the speaker from deviating from the subject before the house.

Sec. 9. The President shall take care that each subject be duly considered before a decision be made. He shall distinctly rehearse each motion when no one has any further observations to offer, and take the vote of the house on the same.

Sec. 10. When the votes are called for, they are to be given by ayes and nays, and no further observations are

then admissible, and no further action had except by reconsideration, and then only when moved and seconded by members having voted in the affirmative.

Sec. 11. The President has the appointment of all Committees which are not to be elected by ballot, or otherwise; and every motion for the formation of a committee shall specify in what way it is to be formed.

Sec. 12. It is an important part of his duty to give counsel to every member of the Synod when he deems it expedient, and particularly to admonish and advise every erring brother. If accusation has been lodged against any member of this body, according to chapter 3d, section 5th of the Formula, or if he has any reason to believe that any Minister is living in any material violation of the rules of this Constitution, it shall be his duty to call upon the individual to relieve his character from said imputation before the Synod or Ministerium.

Sec. 13. Should the President remove from the limits of the Synod or depart this life, then the Secretary shall succeed him, and discharge the duties of the President until the next Synod.

OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY.

Sec. 14. The Recording Secretary shall keep a faithful and accurate record of all the proceedings of the Synod and Ministerium, carefully preserve all the papers, the seal of the Synod, &c., subject to its direction, and shall do all the official writing of the Synod not otherwise provided for.

Sec. 15. He shall give public notice of the time and place of the Synodical meeting at least six weeks before the time appointed.

Sec. 16. He is to keep a register of the names of all the Ministers and Licentiates, arranged according to their age

in office, and also of the Congregations, whether vacant or not, connected with the Synod.

Sec. 17. If the accumulation of business should render it necessary, the President may appoint an assistant Secretary, whose office shall expire at the close of the session of the Synod.

Sec. 18. If in the recess of the Synod, the Secretary should remove into the bounds of another Synod, or depart this life, the President shall require the archives, the seal, and all other property of the Synod to be delivered to him, and shall retain the charge of them until the next session of Synod, when he shall appoint a Secretary *pro tem.*

Sec. 19. Unless the archives are otherwise disposed of by the Synod, they shall be in the charge and custody of the Secretary. Any Minister or delegate of a Congregation connected with this Synod, shall have free access to them, but no part of them shall be allowed to be taken away or destroyed.

OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

Sec. 20. It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary to perform all the public correspondence with other ecclesiastical bodies and with individuals, relative to the general interests of the Church, and particularly of this Synod.

Sec. 21. He shall make a minute of all important matters which may be communicated to him, either by letter or in the Minutes of Lutheran Synods, which he shall present to this Synod at its regular meeting in the form of a report.

OF THE TREASURER.

Sec. 22. The Treasurer shall take charge of all the monies belonging to the Synod, and shall keep them subject to its order. He shall give bond and security in such sum as the

Synod may direct. He shall keep and present at each annual meeting a detailed and faithful account of the state of the Treasury.

Sec. 23. An order from the President, attested by the Secretary, on the Treasurer, shall be a sufficient voucher for him to pay any money out of the Treasury.

Sec. 24. Should the Treasurer, during the recess of the Synod, remove out of its bounds, or be removed by death, the President shall cause all monies, certificates, bonds and documents belonging to the Synod, to be delivered into his hands, and shall have the charge of them until the next Synodical session.

CHAPTER III.

MEMBERS OF THE SYNOD.

Sec. 1. It is the sacred duty of every Ordained Minister, Licentiate and Lay-Delegate of this Synod, to observe the provisions of this Constitution, and see that it is obeyed by all connected with it.

Sec. 2. It is recommended to every Ordained Minister and Licentiate, to aid in circulating among the members of his charge, the books proposed by said Synod.

Sec. 3. One Minister or Licentiate shall not interfere with the Congregation of another, by preaching or performing any ministerial duties whatever in the same, except by his request or consent, if present, nor in the Pastor's absence, if it is to be feared that such an act might have a tendency to destroy the peaceable relations of the Pastor with his people and harmony between the brethren.

Sec. 4. In all cases of controversy between two Ministers, or between a Minister and his Congregation or Pastorate, which they cannot amicably settle by their own endeavors, by the mediation of the President, or the Special

Conference to which they belong, the parties or either of them, may make application to the Ministerium in Synod convened, and if once so submitted, shall abide by its decisions. If it appear to the Ministerium that the controversy between a Minister and his Congregation or Pastorate has proceeded to such lengths, as to preclude all hope of its favorable termination, and that a dissolution of the connection that exists between them is necessary to restore peace, and promote the prosperity of the Church, then the Ministerium shall recommend to such Minister to resign his charge of that Congregation or Pastorate, on such conditions as to him and the Ministerium may appear reasonable.—And if such Minister, Congregation or Pastorate refuse to comply with said recommendation, the Synod may, according to circumstances, dissolve its connection with either the Minister, the Congregation or the Pastorate, until both parties agree to the terms of the recommendation.

Sec. 5. Any Minister or Licentiate in good standing, who removes from the bounds of this Synod, into those of another, shall, on application to the President, receive a certificate under his signature of his regular dismission.

Sec. 6. Whenever a Minister moves within the bounds of this Synod, and takes charge of Congregations under our care, he shall immediately notify the President of the fact, and he shall likewise connect himself with our Synod at its next session.

Sec. 7. Every Ordained Minister has the right to leave his charge and remove to another whenever he believes it his duty so to do; yet he must give his Congregations and the President timely notice of his intended removal.

Sec. 8. If any Minister voluntarily dissolves his connection with, or is suspended or excommunicated from this Sy-

nod, his connection with his Congregations as Pastor thereof shall immediately cease.

Sec. 9. Whenever a Minister or Licentiate has taken charge of a regular Pastorate, he shall be restricted to the same, and not resign a part without resigning the whole charge, and no call to a Pastorate shall be considered valid unless it proceed from the whole charge embracing a two third vote of all the constitutional electors in said Pastorate.

Sec. 10. No one or more Congregations composing a part of a regular Pastorate, shall at pleasure or through the influence of a disaffected party, dismiss their Pastor without the consent of the whole Pastorate by obtaining a two-third vote of all the electors in said Pastorate.

Sec. 11. A licensed candidate shall have the liberty to visit vacant Congregations, either upon receiving an invitation from them, or upon the advice of the Synod or President.

Sec. 12. After a Licentiate has a stated charge, he shall be restricted to it, and shall not resign it without the consent of the Ministerium or in its recess, of the President.

Sec. 13. A Licentiate has power to perform all the Ministerial functions during the time specified in his license.

Sec. 14. In addition to the obligations of Ministers specified in chapter 3, sec. 1, of Formula, it is the duty of Licentiates particularly, to devote all their leisure time to their personal improvement in knowledge and grace, to receive counsel from the President, and apply to him for advice in case of difficulty.

Sec. 15. Every Licentiate must keep a regular journal of his ministerial acts, which with a few sermons of his own composition, he must deliver or send annually for the inspection of the Ministerium.

Sec. 16. If any Congregation in connection with this Synod, shall, without our consent, employ as its Pastor, a

Minister who has been expelled from any Ecclesiastical body, or who is not acknowledged by this Synod, said Congregation shall be excluded from our connection.

Sec. 17. Any Licentiate coming from the bounds of another Lutheran Synod, shall, upon presenting a letter of dismissal, be received as a member of our Synod.

LAY-DELEGATES.

Sec. 18. It shall be the duty of the council or councils of the church or churches of each pastoral district, to elect annually a lay-delegate to attend to the meeting of Synod; and the delegate so selected shall receive a certificate signed by the Pastor and countersigned by one or more members of the church council; but if the pastorate be vacant, the certificate shall be signed by members of the church council only.

Sec. 19. Each lay-delegate entitled to a seat by this Constitution, shall have equal rights with the ministers in all business belonging to the Synod, viz: he may take part in the debates, offer resolutions, and vote on all Synodical questions.

CHAPTER IV.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

It is recommended that the transactions of Synod be conducted as follows:

Sec. 1. At the time and place appointed for the meeting, the members present shall assemble, and if three ordained ministers and three lay-delegates be present, they shall constitute a quorum.

Sec. 2. The President shall open the first Session by prayer, after the brethren have unitedly sung a hymn; and every session of the Synod and Ministerium shall be opened and closed with prayer. In the absence of the President,

the first prayer shall be made by the Secretary, and if he also be absent, by one of the elder ministers present.

Sec. 3. The Secretary shall then call the names of all the ordained ministers and licentiates belonging to the Synod, and note the absentees.

Sec. 4. The lay-delegates shall then exhibit the certificates of their appointment, and their names shall be registered by the Secretary as members of the Synod.

Sec. 5. The President shall make his report according to Chap. 2, Sec. 5, of this Constitution, as the last official act of his office, and then inform the members that the election of officers for the ensuing year is now to be attended to.

Sec. 6. Admission of delegates or ministers from other ecclesiastical bodies, according to Chap. 1, Sec. 15—16, and reception of other advisory members as provided for in this Constitution.

Sec. 7. The minutes of last Synod may be read.

Sec. 8. All papers intended for the Synod or Ministerium, are to be handed in, and verbal notice may be given of any important business intended to be brought before the Synod.

Sec. 9. The Standing Committees in the Order of Business of this Synod, shall be as follows:

1. On the President's Report and accompanying documents.
2. On Petitions and Vacancies.
3. On unfinished business.
4. On the state of Finance in our several Funds.
5. On the state of Religion.
6. On proceedings of conferential meetings.

And as many select or special committees as the exigency of each Synod may require.

Sec. 10. The Secretary shall then number the papers as arranged by the President; after which they shall be taken up and discussed before the whole house, in numerical order, or be first referred to committees, as the house may direct. The reports of committees may be heard and acted on at any time, and the intervals be filled up by the succeeding items.

Sec. 11. Each minister shall be called upon by the Secretary for his Parochial report, which may embrace the following items: Number of congregations, Baptisms, Confirmations, Receptions by letter, Dismissions, Communicants, Deaths of members, Burials, Expulsions, Restorations, Sabbath Schools, Teachers, Scholars, Bible classes, Prayer Meetings, Missionary and Education Societies, and contributions to benevolent and local enterprises.

Sec. 12. The Treasurer's account shall be heard.

Sec. 13. The number of vacant congregations shall be inquired into, and provision made for them.

Sec. 14. Promiscuous business.

Sec. 15. Election of Delegates to Ecclesiastical bodies, and of Directors of Western Carolina Male Academy, at Mt. Pleasant, N. C.

Sec. 16. The Synod may then determine the time and place of the next meeting. If, during the recess of Synod, the President, with the consent of the Pastor of the congregation where the Synod was to be held, or if the congregation be vacant, with the consent of the church council, should deem a change of place necessary for holding the Synod, he shall have power to select some other suitable place for that purpose, by giving timely notice of such change.

Sec. 17. Dismissions of the Synod.

Sec. 18. Should the President or Secretary be absent at

the proper time for opening a session, the members present may elect others *pro tempore.*

CHAPTER V.

PROCESS AGAINST A MINISTER.

SEC. 1. As the honor and success of the gospel depend very much on the character of its ministers, the Synod ought to guard with the utmost care and impartiality, the conduct of its members.

SEC. 2. All christians should be very cautious in giving credit or circulation to an ill report of any man, and especially of a minister of the gospel. If any member of the church knows a minister to be guilty of a private censurable fault, he should warn him in private. If this prove fruitless, he should apply to the church council, who shall proceed as specified in Chap. 3, par. 5, of Formula.

SEC. 3. If accusation be lodged according to Chap. 3, Sec. 5, of said Formula, with the President, within four months of the time of the next Synodical meeting, he shall defer the matter to said meeting; yet if the charge be one of drunkenness, lewdness, circulating fundamental errors in doctrine, or a higher crime, he shall immediately direct the accused to suspend all his ministerial duties until his case is decided. If such accusation is lodged with the President at an earlier date, he shall, if the charge be one of drunkenness, lewdness, circulating fundamental errors in doctrine, or higher crime, immediately give notice to all the members of the Conference District to which the accused belongs, to meet without delay at a suitable place, and institute a formal investigation of the case, according to the principles of the Formula. The President shall immediately fix the time and place of the meeting, and give at least fifteen days notice of the same to each Minister in the

Conference District, and also to the parties concerned,—Or the President may appoint a committee of three Ordained Ministers, and fix the time and place of their meeting, and give all the notice as above required.

Sec. 4. A committee of three Ordained Ministers thus appointed, shall have power to proceed and hold a fair and impartial investigation of the case, and to take all such measures as may be just and necessary to determine the guilt or innocence of the accused.

Sec. 5. If the accused confess, and the matter be base and flagitious, such as are specified in Sec. 3, of this Chapter, however penitent he may be, he must be immediately suspended from the exercise of his office, and if thought expedient, a time appointed for him to confess publicly to the congregation his guilt and penitence.

Sec. 6. If a Minister accused of atrocious crimes, being duly notified, refuses to attend the investigation, he shall be immediately suspended from office.

Sec. 7. If the accused deny the charge, and yet on examination of the evidences is found guilty, the Conference or Committee shall nevertheless proceed to pass sentence on him.

Sec. 8. The highest punishment which can be inflicted by a Conference or Committe appointed as above specified, is suspension from clerical functions; and this sentence is to be reported to the next meeting of the Synod, and remains in force till reversed by the Synod or Ministerium, as the case may be.

Sec. 9. Any Minister intending to appeal from the decision of a Conference or Committee, shall give notice of it to his accusers within three weeks after the time when the decision was made, that both parties may be prepared for a new trial.

Sec. 10. If at any time accusation be lodged with the President according to Chap. iii. par. 5, of Formula, for a less crime than those above specified in Sec. 3 of this Chapter, he shall take no other steps in the case than to write a letter to the accused and the accusers, exhorting them to mutual forbearance and referring them to the next Synod.

Sec. 11. If accusation against a Minister be made immediately to the Synod, and the Synod believe themselves to be in possession of all the evidence necessary to a just decision, the case may be examined immediately and sentence passed. But if the necessary evidence be not before them, and the crime be such as is specified in section 3, of this chapter, they shall appoint a meeting of a Committee who shall proceed as above specified or refer the matter to the Conference of which the accused is a member for investigation.

Sec. 12. If a Minister be found guilty of drunkenness, fundamental heresy, lewdness, or higher crimes, his sentence of suspension shall not be removed until after some time of penitent, humble, and edifying conduct; and he cannot be restored by any other judicatory than the Synod or Ministerium, if his case was one of fundamental heresy.

CHAPTER VI.

VACANT CONGREGATIONS.

Sec. 1. Vacant Congregations which cannot be immediately supplied with a Minister, are advised to assemble on the Lord's day, to select some member of the Church of suitable capacity and character, to conduct the exercises, and engage in the worship of God.

Sec. 2. It is also recommended that at these meetings, a portion of the Scriptures, and of the prayers contained in

the Liturgy, or some select sermons, such as are approved of by the President of the Synod, be read.

CHAPTER VII.

OF MISSIONS.

As the Saviour left to his followers, the command "Go ye and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you," Math. xxviii, 19—20, the Synod shall regard it as a sacred duty to adopt, from time to time, such measures as they may deem best calculated to execute this solemn injunction.

CHAPTER VIII.

ELECTION OF DELEGATES AND DIRECTORS.

SEC. 1. The election of Delegates to ecclesiastical bodies, and Directors of the Western Carolina Male Academy, at Mount Pleasant, North Carolina, may be held by ballot, and a Licensed Candidate shall not be eligible to either of these offices.

SEC. 2. Should any Delegate elected by this Synod to represent us in any other ecclesiastical body, ascertain that he cannot attend said meeting, he shall be required to inform the President, at least six weeks previously, who with the Secretary and the Delegate elect, shall be authorised to appoint some person as his alternate.

CHAPTER IX.

SPECIAL CONFERENCES.

SEC. 1. This Synod shall divide itself into two or more Districts, for the purpose of holding at least two Special Conferences in each District during the Synodical year, at which all the Ordained Ministers and Licentiates within the

District are required to be present, and these meetings to be continued at least two days, and report the proceedings of said Conferences to Synod.

Sec. 2. Each Pastorate in the District shall be represented by a Lay-Delegate, who shall be sent to Conference under the same regulations as to the Synod.

Sec. 3. The business to be performed at these meetings is to strive to awaken sinners, to edify believers by close practical preaching; to become mediator in all cases of controversy between two Ministers, or a Minister and his Congregation or Pastorate, according to chap. 3, sec. 4, and to investigate charges, in case of a process against a Minister. See chapter v. of Constitution.

Sec 4. The state of Religion, in the Churches, shall be inquired into, and some time be spent by the Conference alone in conversation on subjects relating to pastoral experience.

Sec. 5. These Conferences shall be held alternately in some Congregation of each Minister and Licentiate belonging to the Conference.

Sec. 6. Special Conferences may give their advice on any business of Congregations which is referred to them; but no Conference shall, under any pretext whatever, perform any business connected with the licensure or ordination of Candidates for the Ministry, except by the direction of the Ministerium.

CHAPTER X.

OF THE MINISTERIUM.

Sec. 1. The Clergy at the call of the President at an early period of the Synodical session, shall hold a meeting, consisting exclusively of Scripture Elders, that is, preachers, (Acts xx. 17—28,) for the purpose of attending to those

duties which Christ and his Apostles enjoined upon them alone, viz: Examination, Licensure, and Ordination of Candidates for the Ministry. Such a meeting is called The Ministerium, or Presbytery, (1 Tim. iv. 14,) by which in sacred Scripture is meant Ministers alone.

Sec. 2. Licensed Candidates may be present at the Ministerial meeting, unless requested to withdraw, and may take part in the discussions, but have no vote.

Sec. 3. The Ministerium shall also be the proper body, by whom all charges of heresy against a Minister are to be examined and decided; as also all appeals from the decision of a Church Council, on a charge of heresy against a Layman.

Sec. 4. When Ordained Ministers of other religious denominations, make application for admission into connection with this Synod, the Ministerium shall be the body to decide on the case.

Sec. 5. Two-thirds of the Ordained Ministers shall be required, either for the licensure of an applicant as well as the renewal of his license, or the ordination of a licensed Candidate, or the admission of an Ordained Minister of another denomination. The question relative to the Ordination, Licensure or Admission of a Minister by the Ministerium, shall always be determined by ballot.

Sec. 6. No Minister or Licentiate, coming from a foreign country, shall be received as a member of this Synod, until after a residence of two years in this country, and unexceptionable deportment during that time. Excepting only, that if an Ordained Minister comes well recommended for piety and learning by a Consistorium, or a number of individuals known to the Ministerium as orthodox and evangelical, and if the Ministerium believe they can safely confide in the testimonials, they may receive him, after

which the vote for his permanent reception, as a regular member, shall be taken, and the case decided according to sec. 5 of this chapter.

Sec. 7. All business not specifically intrusted to the Ministerium in this Constitution, shall belong to the Synod.

Sec. 8. The Ministerium shall meet upon its own adjournments during the Synodical Sessions, after its first convocation by the President.

Sec. 9. The Order of Business of the Ministerium may be as follows:

1. After the session has been opened with prayer, the President shall communicate any business which he may have to report or propose.

2. The Licentiates shall hand in their Licenses, Sermons and Journals, which may be read by the Licentiates before the whole body. Or if want of time renders this inconvenient, committees ought then to be appointed to examine and report thereon.

3. Applicants for licensure are examined.

4. After the examination of the Applicants, and the Sermons and Journals of Licentiates, the Applicants and Licentiates may be desired to withdraw, and the question of their Licensure, or renewal of License, or Ordination, be discussed and decided.

5. The Licensure and Ordination may be performed, either in the Ministerium, or at an appointed hour before a promiscuous assembly.

6. Promiscuous matters relative to ministerial business may then be attended to.

7. Some time shall then be spent in conversation on pastoral experience.

8. The session closed as directed, chap. 4, sec. 2.

CHAPTER XI.

EXAMINATION AND LICENSURE OF CANDIDATES.

SEC. 1. The examination shall be conducted by a Committee of two or more Ordained Ministers appointed for the purpose at the time. As these examinations may be interesting and useful to the whole Ministerium, it is recommended that they be performed before the whole body.

SEC. 2. After the examination by the Committee, every member of the Ministerium has a right to ask the applicant any additional questions.

SEC. 3. The examination ought to embrace the following subjects, viz: Personal Piety, and the motives of the Applicant for seeking the Holy Office; the Greek and Hebrew Scriptures; the Evidences of Christianity; Natural and Revealed Theology; Church History; Pastoral Theology; the rules of Sermonising; and Church Government.

SEC. 4. The ceremony of Licensure shall be performed as follows: An address from the President as prescribed in the Liturgy; he shall read the duties and privileges of the Licentiate; and then propose to him the following questions:

1. Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to contain the Word of God, and that it is the only infallible rule of faith and practice?

2. Do you believe that the fundamental doctrines of the Word of God are taught in a manner substantially correct, in the doctrinal articles of the Augsburg Confession?

3. Do you promise by the aid of God, faithfully to perform all the duties of a Christian Minister, and to submit yourself to the rules of government and discipline of this body, so long as you remain a member of it?

SEC. 5. These questions being answered in the affirma-

tive, the President offers up a suitable prayer, delivers him his License and concludes with a short address, as directed in the Liturgy.

Sec. 6. During the recess of the Synod, the President may extend License to Candidates who may come well recommended, and whom on proper examination, he may deem qualified to discharge the duties of the Ministry: Provided, however, that the extension of License in such case be not in conflict with the provision of sec. 6, chap. 10.

Sec. 7. All Licenses shall extend to the next annual meeting of the Ministerium, and shall be renewed as a matter of course, whether the Licentiate be present or not, unless satisfactory reasons are known to the Ministerium which render a renewal inexpedient. And if, for any reason, no meeting be held at the appointed time, the Licenses granted by said Ministerium, shall remain in force until revoked at a subsequent meeting.

Sec. 8. If a Licentiate after some time of probation, does, in the judgment of the Ministerium, prove himself unqualified for the duties of the Ministry, his License shall be withdrawn.

CHAPTER XII.

ORDINATION.

Sec. 1. Whenever the Ministerium has decided that an individual shall be ordained, the ceremony may be performed either at the time, by the assembled Ministerium, or if preferred, in the church by which he has been called, by the Special Conference, or by a Committee appointed for the purpose by the President.

Sec. 2 The ceremony of ordination, wherever performed, shall be as follows:

1. A sermon shall be preached by a person previously

appointed, on the nature, duties, and responsibilities of the ministerial office.

2. The President of the Ministerium, or the chairman of the committee appointed by him, shall then, after a short address, such as is contained in the Liturgy, propose to the candidate the following questions:

1. Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to contain the Word of God, and that it is the only infallible rule of faith and practice?

2. Do you believe that the fundamental doctrines of the Word of God, are taught in a manner substantially correct in the doctrinal articles of the Augsburg Confession?

3. Do you promise by the aid of God, faithfully to perform all the duties enjoined on you as a Christian minister, and to submit yourself to the rules of government and discipline of this body, so long as you remain a member of it?

4. Do you believe that in seeking the duties of the ministerial office, you are influenced by a sincere love to God your Saviour, and desire to promote his glory in the welfare of men?

5. Do you promise faithfully and zealously to preach the truths of the gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, as contained in the Holy Scriptures?

Sec. 3. These questions being answered in the affirmative, the Candidate shall kneel down, when the President or presiding Minister shall ordain him after the Apostolical example, by prayer and the laying on of the hands of the Ministry, *i. e.* Presbytery. The Candidate shall then rise, and the officiating Minister, and after him the Ordained Ministers present, shall take him by the right hand and welcome him to take part in the Ministry with them. The ceremony may then be concluded by the benediction.

CHAPTER XIII.

Western Carolina Male Academy.

Sec. 1. This Institution shall be under the government of a Board of Directors, to meet semi-annually, and as often at intermediate times as they may think expedient—said Board to be subject to the advice and control of this Synod, and to which they shall present a written report at each of her annual meetings, concerning the fiscal state and prosperity of said Institution, and such recommendations as may be deemed advisable.

Sec. 2. This Board shall consist of twelve Directors to be chosen by ballot by this Synod, six of whom shall be chosen from the Ordained Ministers of this Synod, except such as may be connected with the Faculty or serve as Instructors in said Institution, and six Lay-men, who may be chosen from among the Lutheran membership, or from any other Christian Denomination.

Sec. 3. Any member of this Board who may forfeit his membership with this Synod, or shall be deposed from communion in the Lutheran Church or the Denomination to which he belongs, or who shall fail to endeavor to carry into effect all the provisions of the Constitution and Statutes of said Institution as approved by this Synod, shall be removed from office by the same at its next meeting.

Sec. 4. The term of office of the Board of Directors shall be *three years*, and any member may be re-eligible to office. The schedule shall be so arranged, that one-third of the entire number, consisting of two Ministers and two Laymen, shall be elected at every annual meeting of Synod.

Sec. 5. The Board shall have power to carry into effect all the plans and provisions embraced in the Statutes and Constitution, ratified by this Synod, for the government of

said Institution, and shall have also the power to make such by-laws and adopt such regulations as they may think from time to time are necessary to meet the Tuitionary and Disciplinary wants of the Institution: *Provided, however*, that such by-laws and regulations never conflict with their Constitution or the Statutes of said Institution.

CONCLUSION.

This Constitution can be altered or amended at any annual meeting of the Synod, by consent of two-thirds of all the members of Synod.

I certify the above to be a true copy of the Constitution as adopted by Synod.

JOSEPH A. LINN.

July 2nd, 1855.